

REMARKS

Reconsideration of this application, based on this amendment and these following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 through 51 remain in this case. Claims 11 through 15, 28 through 32, 40 through 44, 48, and 49 are amended.

Claims 1 through 10, 21 through 27, and 36 through 39 stand allowed.

Claims 11 through 20 were rejected under §112, ¶2 as indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter of the invention. Specifically, independent claims 11, 28, and 40 were rejected because of the indefiniteness of the phrase “substantially removing”. Independent claim 48 was specifically rejected because of the indefiniteness of the phrase “substantially preventing”.

Claims 11, 28, 40, and 48 are amended to overcome the rejection, and for clarity; claims 12 through 15, 29 through 32, 41 through 44, and 49 are amended for consistency with their respective independent claims, and for clarity. In each of the independent claims 11, 28, 40, and 48, the word “substantially” in the objectionable phrases is canceled. The amendment of 11 through 15, 28 through 32, 40 through 44, 48, and 49 for clarity includes replacing the word “when” with “whether”, and the phrase “when it is determined that” with the phrase “responsive to determining that”. No new matter is presented by this amendment to these claims.

Considering this amendment to independent claims 11, 28, 40, and 48, Applicants submit that all claims in this case meet the requirements of §112. And, considering the indication that these claims are otherwise directed to allowable subject matter, Applicants submit that those claims in this application are now in condition for allowance.

The prior art cited as pertinent but not applied has been considered, but is not felt to come within the scope of the claims in this case.

For these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that all claims now in this case are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of this application is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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